

Sheridan 6 LEMA

Local Enhanced Management Area-LEMA

A YEAR IN REVIEW; DECEMBER 31, 2016

Sheridan 6 LEMA

Local Enhanced Management Area-
LEMA

Sheridan 6 LEMA concludes its fourth year of the 5 year allocation program set to continue through December 31st of 2017. The 99 square mile area included 185 irrigation wells and 10 non-irrigation wells.

As required in the Order of Designation Approving the Sheridan 6 Local Enhanced Management Area Within Groundwater Management District No. 4 the “Advisory Committee shall produce an annual report providing a summary of its considerations, and shall transmit that report to GMD4 and to the Kansas Chief Engineer by December 31st of each year of the Sheridan 6 LEMA Period.” No.46, Pg.42.

The following report will include summaries of the April 20, 2016 and November 17, 2016 Sheridan 6 Advisory Committee Meetings, and will provide additional information fulfilling all requirements as stated in the Order including the final 2015 water use data for the LEMA.

SD-6

TWP 7S-28W: Sections
19-21 and 28-33

TWP 7S-29W: Sections
4-9 and 16-36

TWP 7S-30W: Sections
19-36

TWP 8S-29W: Sections
1-18

TWP 8S-30W: Sections
1-18

TWP 8S-31W: Sections
22-27 and 34-36

MINUTES

SD-6 Advisory Committee Meeting

April 20, 2016

2:00 PM @ First State Bank - Hoxie

1. Water Use Data

All three years of water use data was presented showing the total AF pumped, total irrigation AF pumped, the number of acres irrigated and the inches per acre LEMA wide. Percent remaining for the average, large and small were also given.

2. Water Table Information

There are seven annual monitoring wells data was shown on. Each of the seven shows the saturated thickness from 2009 through 2016. The data indicates some wells are coming up and others are reducing the amount of decline.

Data was also given on the monitoring wells with telemetry. The Beckman site was not included as it is currently offline. There is a new well at the Baalman site that only has data from September. Both the old and new Baalman site data was included.

3. Economic Data

A brief update was given on the economic study. Ray Luhman requested those in cooperation with the study to get the information submitted to Bill Golden.

4. Combinations

There are 13 combinations involving 39 wells. There have been no adverse impacts to date and seems to be working. A few questions were asked about the combinations and clarification was made that wells could be combined at any time during the LEMA and monitoring of that next year could get interesting.

5. Violations

None to discuss

6. Changes to Management Options

No changes to made at this time. Depending on if the LEMA will be renewed or phased into the District Wide LEMA to be decided on this fall.

7. General Discussion

Both ideas of the District Wide LEMA were discussed as with the public meetings that occurred. Comments were made on how the irrigators in Sheridan 6 have proven some of the reasons for dislike of the plan can be overcome and how they overcame them. It was expressed the area to stay within a LEMA was favorable, but want to see what is created district wide before committing to renew the current LEMA or joining the District Wide LEMA.

MINUTES

SD-6 Advisory Committee Meeting

November 17, 2016

2:00 PM @ Gary Moss Shop

1. Water Use Data

All three years of water use data was reviewed showing the total AF pumped, total irrigation AF pumped, the number of acres irrigated and the inches per acre LEMA wide. Percent remaining for the average, large and small were also given. This is the same data presented at the meeting on April 20, 2016 as data for 2016 has not been submitted.

2. Water Table Information

There are seven annual monitoring wells on which data was reviewed again. Each of the seven shows the saturated thickness from 2009 through 2016. The data indicates some wells are coming up and others are reducing the amount of decline. This is the same data presented at the meeting on April 20, 2016 as data for 2017 has not been collected.

Data was also given on the monitoring wells with telemetry. The Beckman site was not included as it is currently offline. The “noise” reflected in the Baalman site is the result of a new well that was installed.

3. Economic Data

A brief update was given on the economic study. One producer's data is still needed. Data is showing that producers inside the LEMA are making as much money as producers outside.

4. Combinations - Geographic Distribution of Diversions/Water Use

No adverse impacts have been detected. Committee members have not heard or made aware of any impacts from producers within the LEMA at this time.

5. Combinations – Concentration of Diversion/Water Use

No adverse impacts have been detected. Committee members have not heard or made aware of any impacts from producers within the LEMA at this time.

6. Violations

Dan Simmering, GMD 4 Field Technician has not communicated any troubles to mangers. Several problems have been detected during his field visits that resulted in prompt resolution of potential problems. Kelly Stewart of DWR asked if producers were being annually notified of their individual accounting. It was reported yes, those were sent to all users after WUR data is collected.

7. New and Preferable Enhancement Management Options

It was suggested that a carryover amount to the next five years of a proposed SD 6 LEMA be included to reward those that conserved. With that included, the management options in the current SD 6 LEMA were favored to continue with public support.

8. Formal Review

- a. Economic impacts of the Sheridan 6 LEMA – discussed in above Item 3.
- b. Changes in water levels – discussed in above Item 2.
- c. Whether the flexibility afforded by the use of allocations in the Sheridan 6 LEMA substantially increased water use in any part of the LEMA, or raised other concerns – discussed in above Items 4 & 5.
- d. Whether the Sheridan 6 LEMA should be extended in time – It was decided to create a draft for another LEMA that includes language for a carryover amount. That draft to be presented at a public meeting in December for feedback and a recommendation to the GMD 4 Board of Directors to be given based on the feedback received at the public meeting.

- e. Whether the geographical boundaries of the Sheridan 6 LEMA should be expanded – no objections or suggestions were made to alter the current boundaries.
- f. The impact of the Sheridan 6 LEMA upon the public interest – no adverse impacts were noted or received.

Final 2015 Water Use Data for the Sheridan 6 LEMA

- 1. 16619 AF Irrigated
- 2. 23719 Acres
- 3. 8.5 Inch/Acre Average
- 4. Total Acre Feet Used in 2015=17267 AF
- 5. Goal was within 22,800 AF
- 6. 15 Umbrella Accounts with 48 Water Rights

*2016 water use data will not be available till March or April of 2017

WATER TABLE DATA

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
07S29W05	-1.30	-0.46	-0.90	-0.70	-1.70	-0.70	-0.98	-0.52
07S29W27	-1.58	-1.56	-1.51	-1.70	-1.95	-0.50	-0.75	+1.02
07S29W30	-1.76	-0.90	2.66	-4.90	-2.85	0.55	-1.45	+0.56
08S29W01	-3.06	-0.80	-1.55	-0.95	-1.95	-0.89	-1.15	-0.35
08S30W05	-1.42	-1.37	-2.56	-0.60	-3.05	0.55	-1.30	+0.01
08S30W11	-2.40	-1.08	-1.87	-1.20	-1.65	-0.99	+0.58	+0.66
08S30W13	-1.29	-1.20	-1.01	-2.00	-0.88	-1.33	-3.11	-0.80